

REMARKS

In response to the requirement for election of species, Applicants has made the election and listed the claims readable thereon.

As indicated, only two claims are drawn to the non-elected parallel or straight thread embodiment of Figure 1, namely claims 14 and 21. All the rest have been listed.

In response to the restriction requirement Applicants have elected the claims of Group I drawn to the method, but with traverse.

The reasons for the restriction requirement are set forth in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Office Action and seem stock phrases from a form book, paying no attention to the words of the claims. The Examiner apparently didn't go beyond the terms "process" and "splice". When properly considering the claims the Examiner's reference to "heating" at the bottom of paragraph 2 makes no sense whatsoever.

A review of the claims and the specification reveals that Applicants invention relates to cold working. The expression cold work or cold forming is found in all of Applicants claims. It is also well known that hot forging requires an inordinate amount of energy, and more importantly, changes or weakens the characteristics of the steel. Again, to restore the strength is costly.

Applicants process and splice are a unitary invention and restriction should not be required.

Finally, if the Examiner should have occasion to phone Applicants Attorney again, it is suggested a message and phone number be left so the call can be returned.

In view of the forgoing a complete action on the merits of all the elected claims is requested.

Should any deficiencies or overpayments occur in the filing fees of the subject amendment, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account Number 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,
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